

# IT'S TIME TO PROTEST WHEN THE RICH PREACH THEIR VICES, SAYS CHESTERTON

Discussing the Proposal to Make Divorce Easier for the Poor in England, He Asserts That His Views Are Both Right and Representative



G. K. Chesterton.

The following characteristic utterances by Gilbert K. Chesterton, the English author and critic, were made in the course of an interview which a representative of THE SUNDAY SUN had with him recently in England. The subject of the interview was intended to be the movement now under way in England to make divorces easier to secure with a view to benefiting the poorer classes of the population; but as usual Mr. Chesterton allowed himself wide latitude in discussing the subject.

"Of course," said Mr. Chesterton, balancing himself with difficulty on a very small chair, "I never claim for my opinions the vice of impartiality, and in this question of divorce I must certainly do not profess to be impartial. In my modest manner, however, I do claim most emphatically to be right. I also claim to be representative; that is, a democrat."

"Now of course one may believe in democracy, but I do not believe in it. The difficulty about believing in democracy is that it is so hard to believe—like gold and many other good things. The trouble with not believing in democracy is that there isn't anything else to which to believe. I mean that there is nothing else in earthly politics, unless an aristocracy is selected by gods to be selected by men. It may be passively permitted, but either heaven must permit it, otherwise it can have no more moral authority than a lucky pickpocket. It is a mere rash, typical of the modern mind, to think, to talk of superior and inferior. The wise few must be either those whom others think wise, who are often fools, or those that think themselves wise, who are always fools."

"Well, if you happen to believe in democracy as I do, there can be no question about your impartiality on the subject of divorce, or the extension of divorce among the democracy. It does not seem to me to be worth contending that the rich largely be-

lieve in divorce, as the poor largely believe in fidelity. But this modern rich are powerful and the modern poor are powerless. Therefore for years and decades past the rich have been preaching their own virtues. Now that they have begun to preach their vices too I think that it is time to protest."

"There is one enormous and elementary objection to the popularizing of divorce which comes before any consideration of the nature of marriage. It is like an alphabet in letters too thick to be seen. That even if the democracy approved of divorce as strongly and deeply as the democracy does in fact disapprove of it, any man of common sense must know that nowadays the thing will be worked probably against the democracy, but quite certainly by the plutocracy."

"People seem to forget that in a society where power goes with wealth and where wealth is in an extreme state of inequality extending the powers of the law means something entirely different from extending the powers of the public. They seem to forget that there is a great deal of difference between what laws define and what laws do."

"The law theoretically condemns any one who tries to frustrate the police or even fails to assist them. Yet rich motorists in Great Britain and America are allowed to keep up an organized service of anti-police detectives wearing a conspicuous uniform for the avowed purpose of showing motorists how to avoid capture."

"No one supposes again that the law

says in so many words that the right to organize for the evasion of laws is a privilege of the rich but not of the poor. But take the same practical test: What would the police say, what would the world say, if men stood about the streets in green and yellow uniforms notoriously for the purpose of warning pickpockets of the presence of the main clothes officer? What would the world say if recognized officials in peaked hats watched by night to warn a burglar that the police were waiting for him? Yet there is no distinction of principle between the evasion of that police trap and the other police trap, the police trap which prevents a motorist from killing a child like a chicken, which prevents the most frivolous kind of murder, the most piteous kind of sudden death."

"Well, the poor man's divorce law will be applied exactly as all these others are applied. Every body must know that it would mean in practice that well dressed men, doctors, magistrates and inspectors, would have more power over the family lives of ill-dressed men, navvies, plumbers and potmen."

"Nobody can have the impudence to pretend that it would mean that navvies, plumbers and potmen would either individually or collectively have more power over the family lives of doctors, magistrates and inspectors. Nobody dare assert that because divorce is a State affair therefore the poor class will have any power, direct or indirect, to divorce a duchess from a duke or a banker from a banker's wife. But no one will call it inconceivable that the power of rich families over poor families, which is already great, might be considerably increased by arming magistrates with more powers of interference with private life."

"For the dukes and bankers often are magistrates, also the friends and relatives of magistrates. The navvies are not. The navy will be the

subject of the new experiments; certainly never the experimentalist."

"It is the poor man who will show to the imaginative eye of science all those horrors which, according to newspaper correspondents, cry aloud for divorce—drunkenness, madness, cruelty, incurable disease. If he is slow in working for his master he will be defective. If he is worn out by working for his master he will be degenerate. If he at some particular opportunity prefers to work for himself to working for his master he will be obviously insane. If he never has any opportunity of working for any masters he will be unemployed."

"All the bitter embarrassments and entanglements incidental to poverty will be used to break conjugal happiness, as they are used to break parental authority. Marriage will be called a failure wherever it is a struggle; just as parents are now sent to prison for neglecting children whom they cannot afford to feed."

"I will take but one instance of the enormity and silliness which are really implied in these proposals for the extension of divorce. Take the case constantly quoted by advocates of this extension in their letters to the papers—the case of what is called cruelty."

"Now what is the real meaning of this as regards the prosperous and as regards the struggling classes of the community? It is to take the prosperous classes first."

"Every one knows that those who are really to be described as gentlemen all profess a particular tradition, partly chivalrous, partly merely modern and refined—a tradition against laying hands upon a woman save in a way of kindness. I do not mean that a gentleman hates the coining of a woman by brute force; any one must hate that. I mean he has a ritual, taboo kind of feeling about the laying on of a finger."

"If the gentleman, real or imitation, has struck his wife ever so lightly he feels that he has done an atrocious thing that thrills the thoughts with the notion of a border line, something like saying the Lord's prayer backward, touching a hot kettle, reversing the crucifix or breaking the pledge. The wife will more often forgive the husband for this than for many other things; but the husband will find it hard to forgive himself. It is a purely class sentiment, like the poor people's dislike of hospitals."

"What is the effect of this class sentiment on divorce among the higher classes? The first effect, of course, is greatly to assist those faked divorces so common among the fashionable. I mean that where there is collusion a small pat or push can be remembered, exaggerated or invented and yet seem to the solemn judges a very solemn thing in people of their own social class."

"But outside these cases the test is not wholly inappropriate as applied to the richer classes. For all gentlemen feeling or affecting this special horror, it does really look bad if a gentleman has broken through it. It does look like madness or a personal hatred and persecution. It may even look like worse things. If a man with luxurious habits in artistic surroundings is cruel to his wife it may be connected with some perversion of sex or sanity."

"But this test of technical cruelty, which is rough and ready as applied to the rich, is absolutely mad and meaningless as applied to the poor. A poor woman does not judge her husband as a bully by whether he has ever hit out. One might as well say that a schoolboy judges whether another schoolboy is a bully by whether he has ever hit out."

"The poor wife, like the schoolboy, judges him as a bully by whether he is a bully. She knows that while wife beating may really be a crime, wife hitting is sometimes very like just self-defence. No one knows better than she does that her husband often has a great deal to put up with; sometimes she means him to have; sometimes she is justified."

"She comes and tells all this to magistrates again and again; in police court after police court women with black eyes try to explain the thing to judges with no eyes. In street after street women turn in anger on the hapless knight errant who has interrupted an instantaneous misunderstanding."

"In these people lives the rooms are crowded, the tempers are torn to

rag, the natural exits are forbidden. In such societies it is as abominable to punish or divorce people for a blow as it would be to punish or divorce a gentleman for slapping the door. Yet who can doubt if ever divorce is applied to the populace it would be applied in the spirit which takes the blow seriously? If any one doubts it he does not know what world he is living in."

"It is common to meet nowadays men who talk of what they call free love as if it were something like free silver, a new and ingenious political scheme. They seem to forget that it is as easy to judge what it would be like as to judge what legal marriage would be like. Free love has been going on in every town and village since the beginning of the world; and the first fact that every man of the world knows about it is plain enough. It never does produce any of the wild purity and perfect freedom its friends attribute to it."

"If any paper had the pluck to head a column 'Is Concubinage a Failure?' instead of 'Is Marriage a Failure?' the answer 'Yes' would be given by the personal memory of many men and by the historic memory of all. Modern people perpetually quote some wild expostulation of monks in the wilderness (when a whole civilization was almost maddened with remorse) about the perilous quality of woman, about how she was a spectre and a serpent and a destroying fire. Probably in the same age an establishment of nuns situated a few miles away described man also as a spectre and a serpent; but their words have not come down to us."

"Now, all this old world wit against Benedik, the married man, was sensible enough. But so was the bachelorhood of the old monks who said it. It is perfectly true that to entangle yourself with another soul in the most tender and tragic degree is to make in all rational probability a martyr or fool of yourself."

"Most of the modern denunciations of marriage might have been copied direct from the maddest of the monks. The attack on marriage is an argument for celibacy. It is not an argument for divorce. For that entanglement which celibacy avowedly avoids divorce merely reduplicates and repeats."

"It may well have been a solemn comfort to a gentleman of Africa to reflect that he had no wife. It cannot be anything but a discomfort to a gentleman of America to wonder which wife he really has. If progress means, as in the ludicrous definition of Herbert Spencer, an advance from the simple to the complex, then certainly divorce is a part of progress. Nothing can be conceived more complex than the condition of a man who has settled down finally four or five times. Nothing can be imagined more complex than the position of a profligate who has not only had ten liaisons but ten legal liaisons. There is a real sense in which free love might free men. But free

divorce would catch them in the most complicated net ever woven in this wicked world."

"The tragedy of love is in love, not in marriage. There is no unhappy marriage that might not be an equally unhappy concubinage, or a far more unhappy seduction. Whether the legal or not matters something to the faithless one. The faithless one, upon the perfectly simple fact that if any one deliberately provokes either passions or affections he is responsible for them as long as they go on, as the man is responsible for letting loose a flood or setting fire to a city."

"His remedy is not to provoke them, like the serpent. His punishment, when he deserves punishment, is to spend the rest of his life in trying to undo any ill he has done. His escape is despair, which is called, in this connection, divorce."

"For every healthy man feels one fundamental fact in his soul. He feels that he must have a life, and not a series of lives. He would rather the human drama were a tragedy than that it were a series of music hall turns and potted plays. A man wishes to save the souls of all the men that he has been of the dirty little school boy, of the doubtful and morbid youth of the lover, of the husband. Reincarnation has always seemed to me a cold creed, because each incarnation must forget the other. It would be worse still if this short human life were broken up into yet shorter lives, each of which was in its turn forgotten."

"If you are a democrat who likes also to be an honest man, if in other words you want to know what the people want and not merely what you can somehow induce them to ask for, then there is no doubt at all that this is what they want. You can only realize it by looking for human nature elsewhere than in election reports; but when you have once looked for it you see it and you never forget it. From the fact that every one thinks it natural that young men and women should carve names on trees, to the fact that every one thinks it unnatural that old men and women should be separated in workhouses, millions and millions of daily details prove that people do regard the marital relation as normally permanent; not as a vision but as a vow."

"Now for the exceptions, true or false. I would note a strange and even silly oversight in the discussion of such exceptions, which has haunted most arguments for further divorce."

"The ordinarily emancipated prig or poet who urges this side of the question always talks to one tune. 'Marriage may be the best for most men,' he says, 'but there are exceptions, natures that demand a more undulating experience; constancy will do for the common herd, but there are complex natures and complex cases where no one could recommend constancy. I do not ask at the present stage of progress for the abolition of mar-

riage; I hereby ask that it may be remitted in such individual and extreme examples."

"Now it is perfectly astounding to me that any one who has walked about this world should make such a blunder about the breed we call mankind. Surely it is plain that if you ask for dreadful exceptions you will get them, too many of them."

"Let me strike once again a rough parable. Suppose I advertised in the papers that I had a place for any one who was too stupid to be a clerk. Probably I should receive no replies; possibly one. Possibly, also, nay, probably it would be from the one man who was not stupid at all."

"But suppose that I had advertised that I had a place for any one who was too clever to be a clerk. My office would be instantly besieged by all the most hopeless fools in the four kingdoms. To advertise for exceptions is simply to advertise for idiots."

"It is exactly the here who does think that his case is interesting. It is precisely the really common person who does think that his case is uncommon. It is always the dull man who does think himself rather a wild boy, of the doubtful and morbid youth of the lover, of the husband. To ask solely for strange experiences of the soul is simply to let loose all the imbecile asylums about one's ears."

"Whatever other theory is right, this theory of the exceptions is obviously wrong, or what matters more to the modern school is obviously unbusinesslike. It is, moreover, to any one with popular political sympathies a very deep and subtle sort of treason. By thus putting a premium on the exceptional we grossly deceive the unconsciousness of the normal."

"It seems strangely forgotten that the indifference of a nation is sacred as well as its differences. Even public apathy is a kind of public opinion and in many cases a very sensible kind. If I ask everybody to vote about mineral meals and do not get a single ballot paper returned I may say that the citizens have not voted. But they have."

"The principle held by the plutocracy against which this plutocratic conspiracy is being engineered, is simply the principle expressed in the words 'for better, for worse.' It is the principle that all noble things have to be paid for, even if you only pay for them with a promise."

"One does not take one's interest out of England as one might take it out of consols. A man is not an Englishman unless he can endure even the decay and death of England. In the experience of nationality we do not admit that any excess of despair can come into the same logical world as desertion. No amount of tragedy need amount to treason."

"The Christian view of marriage conceives of the home as self-governing in a manner analogous to an independent state; that is, that it may include internal reform and even internal rebellion, but because of the

bond, not against it. In this way it is itself a sort of standing reformer of the State; for the State is judged, by whether its arrangements bear helpfully or bear hardly on the human fitness and fertility of the free family."

"Thus the wicked ten in Rome were condemned and cast down because their public powers permitted a wrong against the purity of a private family. Thus the medieval revolt against the papacy began by the authority of an official insulting the authority of a father."

"So, just as every citizen is a potential soldier, so every wife and husband is a potential hospital nurse or even asylum attendant. For though we should all approve of certain tragedies being meted out to certain criminals, yet the moral law and honor there has been in the marriage the less real mitigation there will be in the parting."

"But this sound public instinct both about patriotism and marriage also insists that the first vow or obligation shall be meted out not merely to crime and forgotten. Many a good woman has loved and refused a doubtful man, with the proviso that she would marry no one else; the old institution of marriage has the same feeling about the tragedy that is post-marital. The thing remains not merely crime and forgotten. If I am exiled from England I will go and live on an island somewhere and be as jolly as I can. I will not become a patriot of any other land."

"As far as the war has affected the views that I have held for the past ten years on the subject of divorce, I can only say that they are greatly strengthened by this conflict. Before this war I was contending against an evil that was diffused and indefinable, at once tentative and ubiquitous. Since then that disease has come to a head and burst; primarily in the north of Europe."

"By that historic habit which generally makes one European people the standard bearer of a social tendency, which made the Empire a Roman Empire and the Revolution a French Revolution, the North Germans have become the peculiar champions of that modern change which would make the State infinitely superior to the family. It is even asserted that the Prussian political authority is now encouraging the abandonment of common morality for the sake of population; and even if this horrible thing be untrue, it is highly significant that it can plausibly be said of Prussia and of no other Christian State."

"And in the new light of action it is possible to trace more clearly the trend toward divorce, also that trend toward the pagan institution of slavery, which would certainly have accompanied it. But the enslaving force in Europe struck too early, and the whole movement has been brought to a standstill. As far as this war is concerned, I feel that the Prussian idea of morality, or, rather, lack of morality, which in various makes for the enslavement of the individual and the destruction of the family by an exaggerated stress on the power and duty of the State, has been challenged by the free families of five great nations rising against it. The Prussian plot has failed."

## PROMINENT HUSBANDS INVESTIGATED BY NIP AND TUCK, WHO NOW REPORT

LAST YEAR brought to the State Criminal Commission such a flood of anxious inquiries on the desirability of marriage for the wrong sex that Nip and Tuck were appointed to investigate and report on the husbands of prominent women.

After a nervous collapse, due to their starting last August on behalf of decorated summer husbands, Nip and Tuck at first declined the appointment. They could march, pencil and pad in full view, to any wild-eyed man tossing his name at Polly and say, "Pardon us, sir, but why is Green-Rich Village?" They could turn their monoculars on the bark of a family tree and demand of one of its twigs, "Where is your historic background?" But they felt that they could not ring the doorbell of every domesticated female and ask questions about her husband.

But in spite of the difficulties of the undertaking, Nip and Tuck wavered when friends from all over the country urged them to remember the cause. When they finally accepted they stipulated with the S. C. C. that they would report only on such inspections as should be made in an eight-hour day, and that there should be no investigation of their expense account. With these details settled, they started work.

At the end of the eight hours they had the following notes ready for incorporation in their formal report:

"1. Azzy Tate, reformer. Did not spend much time at her home. Neither does she. As she is of the short haired variety, justice demands that her husband, Akonistides Sampson, wear long hair in private, though he consents for the sake of propriety that they be known as Mr. and Mrs. Azzy Tate. The predictions of his friends to the contrary, he did not give up his office when he married."

"My wife agreed, when I consented

to become hers," he said, "that she had no wish to interfere with my career. In fact, she is home so seldom that she is glad to have me occupied. As for my new duties, I have reduced them to such a system that they scarcely interfere with my office routine."

"Note: Prominent woman apparently finds husband bearable."

"2. Henrietta Highlander, social worker. Reached her room in time to hear her address a large and intelligent audience on 'Tanking Conditions for Hippopotami at the Zoo.'"

"As Miss Highlander receives handsome royalties from her first two domestic ventures, she is able to finance her current number, Tertius Quid, so that she can devote all his time to creating for her a proper atmosphere. Mr. Quid invited us to stay for luncheon. We accepted and did not turn in expense account for lunch at club."

"My wife cannot be with us, as she has to accompany a party of ladies to the zoo for the inspection of the baby hippo's tank," he said. "Exchange me just a minute while I gather up her hairpins. She does scatter them so when she talks, but I'd rather pick them up myself than nag her about them."

"Her first husband used to meet her at the door with a dustpan and broom and left the table in hysterics if she splashed a drop of gravy on the cloth when she served the roast. Her second was of the other extreme. Often she would come home at night and find him still in his morning jacket, reading the sport page. I try to keep the place comfortable without making her uncomfortable."

"Note: Prominent woman apparently finds husband harmless."

"3. Mme. Badratta, soprano siren. Invited her and Mr. Badratta to tea at the Rpentmore after one of her matinees. Included this and large bouquet of sunflowers in expense account."

Attempted to escort her from stage door to taxi and had to pick way over prostrated, black coated forms. Looked for something that might resemble a husband, but saw nothing until the taxi had started, when they discovered him in a corner."

"Mouse for short," explained the siren with a careless, introductory nod. "Sometimes I call him the Worm, because he turns."

"It transpired during tea that the Worm was accomplished enough to have two turns—a domestic turn, by which he could prevent his wife from eating too starches at one meal, and an intellectual turn, during which he answered all the love letters received by his wife, and answered them in such a way as to encourage the gentlemen without committing the lady."

"Note: Prominent woman apparently finds husband useful."

"4. Mile. Le Hop, premiere danseuse in the Skip and Jump Trio. We find her husband and manager, Mr. Lamb, most industrious. Every morning he writes an interview for her, beginning, 'Mile. Le Hop, with the world's most talented toe, has at last consented—' Every afternoon he gives to preventing Mile's Skip and Jump from receiving any publicity and every evening he leads the applause after his wife's solo dances."

"Note: Prominent woman apparently finds husband valuable."

"The eight-hour day was up. Nip and Tuck were wearily lifting their canes to hail a taxi to be itemized on expense account) and discussing the report."

"Nip," said Tuck, pounding the pavement with his cane in a sudden fury, "are we going to turn in a report that all prominent wives have receding husbands?"

"It looks like that," said Nip sadly, "unless we put in another eight hours and see if we can't scare up—"

"Hello, boys. Step around to sniff headquarters and meet my brand new wife," said Captain Jinks of the S. U. B. Marine, turning them right about face. "Just back from the honeymoon."

The monoculars of Nip and Tuck fairly twitched with eagerness when they were introduced to Mrs. Jasmine Jinks as she finished her speech. And when she invited them home to help her and her husband, they both felt that the Jinkses twined. They broiled beefsteak and French fried potatoes and washed lettuce and whipped cream and wondered how Jinks was ever going to tear himself away when his leave expired. When they went home they set up all night to write Mrs. Jinks to the list of prominent wives and to prepare their report as follows:

"We beg to state that with one exception we have found prominent wives to have receding husbands. The one exception is so pronounced as to lead us to the belief that strength finds its true complement in strength. We pin this belief to the small but mighty person of Mrs. Jasmine Jinks, suffrage leader. We find Mrs. Jinks petite and dimpled and we consider her the best cook we ever met."

"She knows that when we speak of Villa we do not mean a summer home in Italy; she knows that when we speak of Verdun we are not talking of insect exterminators, and she knows the difference between the policies of Wilson and Roosevelt, which is more than they do. She has captured a roaring lion and makes him like captivity. We are firmly of the opinion that she would not have bothered with a lamb."

"Wherefore we recommend prominent women, if they be nothing but prominent, to take receding husbands, and prominent women who are really big do not need our advice, for they can take nothing but prominent husbands."

When other diversions pall the stated guest should be sent down into the sea to shake hands with Davy Jones and see how the denizens of the deep deport themselves in their native haunts."

The sounds fantastic, no doubt, but it is just this very thing that William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., does when he wants to thrill his friends aboard his yacht, the Tarantula, when cruising about in the limpid waters around the Florida Keys. One by one he sends them twenty or thirty feet down to the seabed, where forests of coral wave with their burdens of purplish subaqueous vegetation and schools of rainbow tinted fish dart in and out of the shadowy arched. It is like being born again into a new world of pallid green abounding in softened contours and shot about with ever changing opalescent hues."

How is it possible for any one but a trained diver to do this? How can a submarine novice hold his eyes open and stay below long enough to get more than the haziest glimpse of these underwater wonders? It is all because of a recent invention that makes this form of diving scarcely more difficult than donning a top hat. In this case, however, the hat might better be called a helmet. The rest of the togethery needed is nothing more than conventional swimming or bathing dress, and a third is placed at the rear of the hood. Together they are heavy enough to carry the helmet to the bottom even when filled with air.

On the left side of the hood, at a point just above the diver's ear, is the intake valve, by which air enters the helmet through a rubber hose connecting with a pump at the surface. Down around the bottom of the helmet is a line of small holes through which the surplus air passes steadily outward and then surfaceward, carrying away in this fashion the exhaled breath and especially the carbonic acid gas given off from the lungs. Mechanically that is all there is to the

helmet. It is not strapped to the wearer, but merely rests upon his shoulders by reason of its moderate dead weight, which is just enough to hold it in position, no matter how the diver may move about or rest upon the seabed. Indeed, this apparatus, within the operative limits prescribed by the inventor—a matter of fifty feet of submergence—is safer and far more flexible in its service possibilities than the regular forms of diving dress.

The diver can bend over, he down or move about freely without fear of inflating an elastic garment and thereby being blown to the surface. There is no fabric to rot or tear; there are no valves to be bothered about, and the only connection with the surface is the hose. And this is not a binding tie. Should the hose feed or the air supply fail the helmet can be easily doffed, and the body's buoyancy will bring the diver to the surface quickly.

Now it is easy to realize how a novel can be put on the diving hood and sink into the water without the bottom and yet retain the fullest liberty of action. The modest dead weight of the helmet is not felt as a burden, and so long as one possesses a sound heart the pressure at thirty or forty feet will occasion no annoyance other than a brief catch in the throat. Both of these pass away quickly after one goes through the motions of swallowing.

Of course the pressure of the air in the helmet is slightly in excess of

that of the enclosing water at the point of the escape valve. Therefore, water cannot enter the helmet. Also the air that is carried into the lungs is of the same pressure and thus is transmitted without the usual body and effects of balance, the compression of the expanding air."

But while Mr. Vanderbilt and his friends may amuse themselves in Nautilus gear, the primary purpose of the diving hood was essentially practical, and intended to facilitate submarine repairs and similar work on vessels that ordinarily do not carry the regulation diving dress and have not trained under water workers aboard. The inventor's first aim was to help the waters of sailing masts and the like, which might be suddenly crippled by something going wrong with the rigging, a fouled propeller, a blade lost from the screw of a hole requiring prompt attention. The apparatus is also useful in other fields. The sponge fishermen can work to greater advantage with its aid and the harvesting of pearl-bearing oysters and mother-of-pearl shells will be carried on hereafter much more economically. Students of marine biology will be able to pursue their investigations about paths and under circumstances formerly denied to all but a few of them. Indeed, marine biologists are now spending hours daily upon the subject of pearls. Florida has standing at that and not only subaquatic vegetation, but all forms of underwater life under ideal conditions."

Doing stunts to show security of the hood. Rex Beach, the author, getting ready to dive. At ease on a submerged coral reef.

## ENTERTAINING GUESTS IN THE DEEP



Doing stunts to show security of the hood. Rex Beach, the author, getting ready to dive. At ease on a submerged coral reef.